ACTION COMICS™ PRESENTS

DOOMSDAY™ SPECIAL

1

WATTERS
BARROWS
FERREIRA
LUCAS

ALSO FEATURING
BLOODWYND: A SUPERMAN FOR HELL
WATTERS - RAYNOR - DALHOUSE

13+ TEEN

HE WHO RULES IN HELL

A CITY-SPANNING CONFLICT THAT WILL CRACK THE BAT-FAMILY IN HALF!

BATMAN/CATWOMAN THE GOTHAM WAR

© & ™ DC.

THE TWO-MONTH BATTLE BEGINS IN AUGUST WITH *BATMAN/CATWOMAN: THE GOTHAM WAR: BATTLE LINES* #1

Written by
CHIP ZDARSKY
TINI HOWARD
MATTHEW ROSENBERG

Art by
MIKE HAWTHORNE
ADRIANO DI BENEDETTO
JORGE JIMENEZ
NICO LEON
NIKOLA ČIŽMEŠIJA

I WAS RAISED ON KRYPTON. OUR CULTURE WAS ONE OF **SCIENCE.**

THERE WERE OLD GODS, REMEMBERED FROM TIMES OF YORE, BUT THEY WERE NOT **WORSHIPPED**...THEY WERE REMEMBERED AS MYTHS AND FAIRY TALES.

KRYPTON HAD NO HEAVEN. IT HAD NO HELL.

AND YET, WE STILL HAD A DEVIL.

DOWN HELL

WRITER: DAN WATTERS
ARTISTS: EDDY BARROWS AND EBER FERREIRA
COLORIST: ADRIANO LUCAS
LETTERER: DAVE SHARPE
COVER ARTIST: BJÖRN BARENDS
VARIANT COVER ARTISTS: LUCIO PARRILLO, PUPPETEER LEE, DAN JURGENS, NORM RAPMUND AND HI-FI
1:25 VARIANT COVER ARTIST: CLAYTON CRAIN
1:50 VARIANT COVER ARTISTS: JON BOGDANOVE AND HI-FI
ASSISTANT EDITOR: JILLIAN GRANT
EDITOR: PAUL KAMINSKI
SUPERMAN CREATED BY JERRY SIEGEL AND JOE SHUSTER.
SUPERGIRL BASED ON THE CHARACTERS CREATED BY JERRY SIEGEL AND JOE SHUSTER.
BY SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT WITH THE JERRY SIEGEL FAMILY.

"KARA?"

HNN? SORRY, CLARK. WHAT WAS THAT?

I SAID THAT MIGHT BE ENOUGH SYRUP.

EVERYTHING OKAY, KARA?

I DON'T KNOW. JUST LAST NIGHT I HAD THIS... *DREAM.*

YEAH.

ANYTHING IN PARTICULAR?

DOOMSDAY.

LORDY.

YOU KNOW, WE HAD A WORD IN KRYPTONIAN. SHIK'LRITH.

RIGHT. LIKE "URBAN MYTH," RIGHT?

SORTA.

I GUESS IT WOULD REALLY RING CLOSER TO "URBAN *TRUTH.*"

DOOMSDAY WAS ONE OF THOSE.

THIS STORY THAT A ROGUE SCIENTIST HAD CREATED A BEING OF IMMENSE POWER. A MINDLESS, HATEFUL THING WHICH GREW STRONGER EACH TIME HE DIED.

A THING WHO COULD *ALWAYS* RETURN... THE GREAT SIN OF KRYPTON WE COULD NEVER ESCAPE.

BUT IT WAS LIKE... A CAMPFIRE STORY.

NOT TO ME.

WHAT WAS...UM?

WHAT WAS IT LIKE? GETTING *KILLED* BY DOOMSDAY?

I GUESS.

YOU KNOW, I'VE FOUGHT GODS.

ACTUAL GODS.

I'VE BEEN TRAPPED IN TIME, TORTURED ON WARWORLD, HAD MY SON STOLEN BY AN EVIL PARALLEL UNIVERSE VERSION OF MYSELF.

AT TIMES THINGS HAVE BEEN PRETTY DARN ROUGH FOR A KANSAS FARM BOY.

BUT IF I'M HONEST? ON A PHYSICAL LEVEL?

"FOR MY BODY AND SOUL, THERE HAVE BEEN FEW *DARKER* MOMENTS...

"...THAN TRADING PUNCHES BACK AND FORTH WITH THIS MONSTER I *KNEW* WAS GOING TO KILL ME.

"AND KNOWING IF I DIDN'T KILL IT TOO BEFORE I DROPPED, IT WOULD THEN KILL EVERYONE I LOVED. EVERYONE I'D EVER KNOWN.

"AND BEING TIRED...NOT IN THE WAY *WE* GET TIRED. BUT IN THE WAY HUMANS MUST MEAN WHEN THEY SAY IT.

"HAVING NOTHING LEFT IN THE TANK. NOTHING AT ALL.

"EACH SWING BEING A DEAD WEIGHT.

"A DESPERATE, CRUSHING THING.

"AND THEN EVERYTHING WENT BLACK.

YOU KNOW, HE TRIED TO COME BACK, RECENTLY. HE TRIED TO REGROW HIS BODY FROM METROPOLIS'S OWN *MEMORY.**

MARTIAN MANHUNTER STOPPED HIM.

HE AND SOME POOR KID--RAPHAEL ARCE. IT COST ARCE HIS LIFE.

*AS CHRONICLED IN THE PAGES OF ***LAZARUS PLANET.*** --PK

KARA. I DON'T MEAN TO SCARE YOU.

BUT ARE YOU CERTAIN THIS WAS JUST A *DREAM?*

JEEZ CLARK, I'M REALLY SORRY I BROUGHT THIS UP ON A WEDNESDAY MORNING.

OF COURSE IT WAS ONLY A NIGHTMARE. WHAT ELSE WOULD IT BE?

WELL... IF YOU'RE SURE...

SUPERMAN!

SUPERMAN, YOU'LL NEVER GUESS WHAT *KRYPTO* DID!

OH BOY, HERE COMES TROUBLE!

"OF COURSE IT WAS ONLY A NIGHTMARE...

"WHAT ELSE WOULD IT BE?"

SUPERGIRL.

MARTIAN MANHUNTER?!

WELL, SPEAK OF THE DEVIL.

THAT IS EXACTLY WHAT I'M AFRAID OF--

I AM SORRY, KARA.

I BELIEVE I SENT YOU A *NIGHTMARE.*

LAST NIGHT, I RECEIVED A... MESSAGE. A PSYCHIC CODE. I DID NOT UNDERSTAND IT.

IT WAS IN *KRYPTONIAN.*

BEFORE IT FADED, I HAD TO SEND IT SOMEWHERE... TO SOMEONE WHOSE MIND MIGHT *TRANSLATE* IT FOR ME.

YES. I UNDER-STOOD IT.

AND IS...?

YES. IT'S *HIM.* YOU KNEW IT WOULD BE. THAT'S WHY YOU SENT THE DREAM TO *ME*...

"...AND NOT TO *CLARK.*"

I HAD THE MISFORTUNE OF CREATING A PSYCHIC CONNECTION WITH DOOMSDAY THE LAST TIME I ENCOUNTERED HIM.

I DID NOT WISH TO EXPOSE SUPERMAN TO THAT. TO DRAG UP HIS AGONIES AT THAT MONSTER'S HANDS.

IF ***HE*** IS SENDING ME PSYCHIC MESSAGES...HE MIGHT BE ATTEMPTING TO RETURN TO EXISTENCE ONCE AGAIN.

WHERE ***IS*** DOOMSDAY, KARA?

COULD YOU SEE?

I...I'M NOT CERTAIN. IT'S NOT SOMEWHERE I RECOGNIZED. SOMEWHERE ***HOT.*** FULL OF ***HATRED.***

WOULD YOU ALLOW ME TO SEE?

IF DOOMSDAY IS NEAR--IF THERE IS ***RISK***--WE WILL HAVE TO PUT EVERY HERO ON ALERT.

KARA ZOR-EL DOESN'T SEE A REASON NOT TO SHOW HIM THE DREAM.

SHE TRUSTS THE MARTIAN MANHUNTER...AND IT IS ONLY A PSYCHIC TRACE THEY ARE ATTEMPTING.

WHAT'S THE WORST THAT COULD HAPPEN?

HE TOUCHES HER FOREHEAD AND TOUCHES HER DREAMS.

HE FOLLOWS THE NIGHTMARE OF WHITE AND GRAY AND FANG DOWN ITS ROOT, SEARCHING FOR ITS SOURCE...

...BUT IT KEEPS GOING DEEPER. IT KEEPS GETTING **HOTTER.**

IN FAIRNESS TO THE MARTIAN, THERE WAS LITTLE WAY HE COULD HAVE KNOWN HE WAS REACHING TOWARDS **ME.**

THAT HE WAS GIVING ME ACCESS TO BOTH OF THEM, BODY AND SOUL.

FEW CAN EVER SEE THAT THEY ARE ON THE ROAD TO THIS PLACE.

THAT'S A **WHOLE THING.**

J-J'ONN?! WHAT HAPPENED?

WHERE ARE WE?

SOMEONE... SOMEONE ***PULLED*** US HERE. SOME BEING OF ***INCREDIBLE POWER.***

THIS CAN'T BE...WHERE IT ***LOOKS LIKE.***

THIS PLACE CAN'T EXIST IN A ***RATIONAL*** UNIVERSE.

HUMANKIND BELIEVES IN IT. SO IT IS REAL.

A PART OF THE PSYCHIC WEB THAT MAKES UP REALITY...

"THIS MUST BE WHERE DOOMSDAY WAS SENT WHEN HE WAS LAST DESTROYED."*

I HEARD THEY FLUNG HIM INTO THE VENOM PIT, AND HE ***BATHED IN IT.***

*IN ***DARK CRISIS!*** --PAUL AGAIN

I HEARD HE MADE THE SCREAMING WALL ***SWALLOW*** ALL ITS OWN ***TONGUES.***

THOSE PEOPLE-- ARE THOSE SOULS?

THEY'RE BEING ***TORTURED!***

YES, INDEED.

THAT HAS, AFTER ALL, LONG BEEN THE REMIT OF **HELL.**

HEY!

WHAT'S THE BIG IDEA?!

I'VE GOT YOU!

HELL'S VERY FOUNDATIONS ARE MADE OF DOWNTRODDEN SOULS. SPIRITS WORN DOWN INTO MUD BY AGONY AND DESPAIR.

THEY ARE NOT USED TO SENSING THE PRESENCE OF THE LIVING.

IT STIRS THEM FOR THE FIRST TIME IN COUNTLESS MILLENNIA.

WH-WHAT IS HAPPENING?!

STAY CALM, KARA--WHATEVER YOU DO, STAY--

THE FIRES OF HELL BURN HOTTER THAN ANY ON EARTH.

THEY ARE HOT ENOUGH TO SCOURGE SOULS, THE ONLY PART OF THE HUMAN ANATOMY THAT CANNOT BE DESTROYED BY EARTHLY FLAMES.

FIRE

THOUGH THEY BURN **SLOWER**, OF COURSE. TO ALLOW THE AGONY TO BE EXTENDED.

OH.

OH!

OH!

THIS IS THE PLACE INTO WHICH DOOMSDAY HAS COME. IMAGINE IT A MOMENT...

A BEING WHO CANNOT **DIE** THE SAME WAY **TWICE.** WHO TAKES WHATEVER TRAUMA HAS BEEN BESTOWED UPON IT--ABSORBS IT, AND BECOMES MORE POWERFUL FROM IT.

RRAAUURRGG

IT IS ALMOST AS THOUGH HELL WAS PURPOSE-BUILT FOR SUCH A BEING.

HE HAS BEEN LEARNING SO MUCH.

HE HAS BEEN FINDING SO MANY NEW WAYS TO BE DESTROYED... LEARNING SO MANY NEW WAYS TO **INFLICT** SUFFERING.

AND THE DEMONIC AND THE DAMNED HAVE BEGUN TO SPEAK OF HIM IN HUSHED WHISPERS.

THEY HAVE BEGUN TO REFER TO HIM BY A NEW TITLE.

H-HAIL KING DOOMSDAY.

DOOMSDAY

...ALL IN ALL, HE IS HAVING A GRAND OLD TIME.

J'ONN, IT'S HIM!

IT'S HIM!

I-I'M SORRY, KARA.

IT SEEMS YOU HAVE SEEN ENOUGH TO UNDERSTAND...

I'M SORRY I DID THIS TO US.

...SO LET US RETREAT.

WH-WHAT NOW?

WELL, NOW YOU GET TO MEET THE DEVIL.

YOU'VE GOT TO BE KIDDING.

HE'S NOT JOKING, SUPERGIRL.

HE IS KNOWN AS THE FIRST OF THE FALLEN.

HE IS LORD OF THIS PLACE. THE MOST POWERFUL BEING IN HELL.

IT IS HE WHO BROUGHT US HERE.

HE'S LETTING ME.

YOU'RE READING HIS MIND?

HE KNOWS THE KNOWLEDGE WILL SCARE US.

HE ENJOYS THIS VERY MUCH.

ALAS, THAT WE HAD TIME TO PLAY.

PLAY?!

THIS PLACE IS AN *ABOMINATION.*

A *STAIN* ON *EXISTENCE.*

OH, YES.

AND THEY *BELIEVE* IN IT. THUS, IT *MUST* EXIST. THERE COULD BE NO LIGHT WITHOUT SHADOW.

NOW, DO YOU WISH TO KNOW WHY YOU HAVE BEEN GRANTED AUDIENCE WITH THE SHADOW?

DOOMSDAY.

HE IS UPSETTING THE BALANCE OF YOUR REALM.

BELIEF, IN THIS REALM, IS EVERYTHING...

"...IF THE DAMNED *BELIEVE* DOOMSDAY IS KING, HE SHALL BE SO. AND HE CAN DO ANYTHING.

"IF ENOUGH OF THEM *DO* BELIEVE, HE CAN LEAVE THIS PLACE AND WALK AMONG THE LIVING ONCE MORE.

"IT IS HIS PSYCHIC TETHER TO YOU, MARTIAN, WHICH HAS ALLOWED HIM TO FIND A *GATEWAY* BACK TO YOUR DREARY REALM."

"AND THE BELIEF OF THE DAMNED IS OPENING IT FOR HIM.

"IT WON'T BE LONG NOW, BEFORE IT IS WIDE ENOUGH FOR HIM TO STEP THROUGH.

"A FEW MORE TORTURES...

"A FEW MORE MURDERS...

"A LITTLE MORE BELIEF."

OF COURSE, IF YOU WERE TO DEFEAT HIM IN BATTLE, NONE WOULD BELIEVE HIM KING OF HELL.

AND AS MY CHAMPIONS, I MIGHT GRANT YOU A BOON.

I HOLD THE ONLY ARMOR POWERFUL ENOUGH TO HOLD BACK THE BEAST.

YOU'RE ASKING US TO FIGHT YOUR FIGHT.

FAT CHANCE, PAL. DO IT YOURSELF.

DO YOU KNOW WHAT WILL HAPPEN TO REALITY IF THE FIRST OF THE FALLEN DONS HIS ARMOR?

IF THE HEAVENS KNOW HE IS READY FOR WAR?

IT WOULD BE A DELIGHT.

YOU WOULD NOT LIKE IT.

AND YET I DO NOT THINK I AM READY FOR THAT, AT PRESENT.

KARA...

DOOMSDAY CANNOT BE ALLOWED TO RETURN TO EARTH.

WE CAN'T MAKE A DEAL WITH THE DEVIL. WE CAN'T.

PEOPLE SO OFTEN SAY THAT...

"...BEFORE THEY REALIZE THEY HAVE NO CHOICE."

HOOM

RRRRAURR

FEE FUM

THE ARMOR IS ONE I HAVE CREATED TO FACE HE WHO I HATE MORE THAN ANY OTHER.

YOU KNOW OF WHOM I SPEAK.

IT IS FORGED FROM THE CHITINOUS SHELLS OF THE THINGS THAT DWELT IN HELL BEFORE I CAME HERE...IN A TIME THAT WAS NOT OR COULD NOT BE.

IT IS SEWN TOGETHER WITH THE HATRED OF THE MOST DESPICABLE DAMNED THIS PLACE HAS EVER KNOWN.

THE KRYPTONIAN CAN FEEL THOSE SOULS CLASP TO HER, **POWER** HER, AS IT ADHERES TO HER FORM.

IF SHE WERE JUST A TAD MORE CORRUPTIBLE, WHAT A SOLDIER OF HELL SHE MIGHT BECOME...

BUT SHE IS NOT.

STAY DOWN. STAY DOWN, YOU MONSTER.

AND HE DOES NOT.

FOR, AFTER ALL, HE HAS AN AUDIENCE TO THINK OF.

CRK

THOOOM

BOOM

THUNK!

RRRRAAUURRR!

THE GATE... IT RUNS ON *BELIEF.*

"AND THEY BELIEVE THAT DOOMSDAY IS POWERFUL ENOUGH TO OPEN IT."

MORTAL SOULS OF HELL.

I AM SORRY TO ASK THIS OF YOU. YOU WHO HAVE **SUFFERED SO** ALREADY.

BUT I NEED YOUR **HELP.**

YOU ARE SPIRITS OF WHAT ONCE WAS **HUMANITY.**

YOU HAVE DESCENDANTS, ALLEGIANCES, AND LOVED ONES AMONG THE LIVING.

THEY WILL PERISH IF DOOMSDAY LEAVES THIS PLACE. THEY WILL SUFFER AS YOU DO.

YOU BELIEVE HE IS POWERFUL ENOUGH TO DO SO. AND I SHALL NOT LIE TO YOU. PERHAPS THIS MAKES HIM SO.

BUT THERE IS ONE THING I ASK OF YOU, PERHAPS MORE POWERFUL THAN BELIEF...

...HOPE.

"HOPE THAT HE CANNOT ESCAPE. HOPE THAT THINGS CAN BE BETTER FOR THOSE ABOVE THAN THEY ARE HERE BELOW.

LEND ME YOUR HOPE.

ASSIST ME IN CLOSING THIS GATE.

PLEASE...

MARTIAN MANHUNTER HEARS NOTHING. THERE ARE NO REPLIES FROM AMONG THE DAMNED.

THEY HAVE NO HOPE.

THIS IS A STORY OF HELL, AFTER ALL.

THIS IS A STORY OF DOOMSDAY.

THAK!

SO OF COURSE ALL IS LOST.

EVEN THE UNHOLY ARMOR OF IMMORTAL MISERY IS FAILING TO PROTECT THE KRYPTONIAN FROM THE ONSLAUGHT IN THE END.

BUT THEN THE FIRST OF THEM COMES.

HAVING ESCAPED MOMENTARILY FROM HER TORTURER DEMON, WHO IS WATCHING DOOMSDAY BATTLE IN SUCH AWE.

WHO KNOWS WHAT HER NAME WAS, AS A MORTAL. IT IS LONG GONE FROM HER BY NOW.

THERE MUST BE SOMETHING SHE STILL REMEMBERS OF EARTH, THOUGH. SOMETHING SHE CLINGS TO AS A WARM MEMORY OF LIFE.

WHY ELSE WOULD SHE MAKE THE TERRIBLE SACRIFICE SHE DOES?

OTHERS FOLLOW.

A TRICKLE AT FIRST, THEN A SWARM OF THE DAMNED.

HELL'S VERY FOUNDATIONS ARE MADE OF DOWNTRODDEN SOULS. SPIRITS WORN DOWN INTO MUD BY AGONY AND DESPAIR.

THESE SPIRITS CREATE FOUNDATIONS OF SOMETHING ELSE.

THEY DO NOT HAVE HOPE. THEY DO NOT HAVE BELIEF IN A BETTER FUTURE. NOT HERE.

ALL THEY HAVE IS THEIR PAIN-- THE BODIES WE HAVE GIVEN THEM WITH WHICH TO SUFFER.

AND SO THEY MERGE THOSE BODIES TOGETHER. THEY OSSIFY.

THEY FORTIFY.

THEY USE THEIR IMMORTAL FLESH TO CLOSE THE GATE.

TO MAKE IT STRONGER THAN EVER BEFORE.

IT IS TOO LATE WHEN DOOMSDAY REALIZES SOMETHING IS AMISS--

--WHEN HE ABANDONS TRYING TO BREAK THROUGH THE SHELL TO THE MEAT WITHIN, REALIZING HIS AUDIENCE IS DISTRACTED BY SOME NEW SPECTACLE.

HE RETURNS TO FIND HIS GATEWAY CLOSED...

AT LEAST, HE THINKS, HE HAS HIS NEWEST VICTIM TO MOLLIFY HIM...

RRRAAAULRRR!

BUT HE FINDS THE ARMOR EMPTY.

HNN?!

DOOMSDAY IS A BEAST OF ANIMAL CUNNING...BUT PERHAPS NOT ENOUGH TO KNOW WHO HAS TRICKED HIM.

RRRAAAUGH!

BUT THOSE WHO FOLLOWED HIM DO. THOSE WHO BELIEVED...

...AND THEY WILL REMEMBER ONCE MORE WHO THEY TRULY SERVE.

LONG LIVE THE KING.

W-WE'RE BACK!

FWASH

THE FIRST OF THE FALLEN.

HE RETURNED US TO MAKE A FOOL OF DOOMSDAY.

BUT...ALL THOSE PEOPLE. THOSE SOULS. THEY'RE STILL THERE. SUFFERING.

DOES IT ALL MEAN NOTHING?

IF HUMANITY CREATES A PLACE LIKE THAT--IF SO MANY OF THEM ARE HEADED FOR A PLACE LIKE THAT--

IS EVERY-THING WE DO WORTH-LESS?

THEY CAME TOGETHER.

THE DENIZENS OF HELL. AFTER ALL THEY WENT THROUGH, THEY GAVE THEIR VERY SOULS UP TO PROTECT THE LIVING.

TO SPARE THEM THEIR HELLS. THEIR ***DOOMSDAYS.***

AND WHAT COULD HOLD MORE WORTH THAN THAT?

Y-YEAH. I GUESS THAT'S WHAT ***WE'RE*** ALL DOING.

IT'S THE BEST WE CAN EVER HOPE FOR...

FOOOM

FOOOM

FOOOM

FOOOM

KRAK

"...KEEPING OUR DOOMSDAYS AT BAY."

THE BEGINNING!

DOOMSDAY'S STORY CONTINUES IN THE PAGES OF SUPERMAN AND ACTION COMICS!

I read Dante a fair few years ago. I don't remember a ton about it. More 14th-century in-jokes than I expected.

But from what I do remember, this checks out as the fifth circle of Hell.

Wrath.

I don't think I'm supposed to be here.

YOU...

...YOU'RE NOT SUPPOSED TO BE HERE, SON OF MAN.

NNHZ?!

HOW ARE YOU WANDERING THIS CIRCLE ALONE, UNCHAPERONED--UNTORTURED?

I TASTE YOUR BLOOD AND KNOW YOUR NAME, RAPHAEL ARCE.

IF YOU LACK ONE, I SHALL BE YOUR TORTURER.

OH!

YOU ARE THE ONE WHO, IN YOUR TERROR, BROUGHT DOOMSDAY TO HELL.*

DO YOU HAVE ANY IDEA WHAT *CHAOS* HE IS CAUSING?

P-PLEASE-- I TRIED TO STOP HIM. TRIED TO SAVE METROPOLIS!

*IN *LAZARUS PLANET*. --PK

HARK. SEE WHAT YOU DID.

OH GOD! WH-WHAT ARE THOSE?!

THE IDEA OF DOOMSDAY HAS SPREAD--ECHOING DOWN HELL'S CIRCLES.

SPREADING INTO ITS DNA. INTO ITS *EARTH*.

YOU HAVE MADE HELL MORE HELLISH FOR THE FIRST TIME IN MILLENNIA.

AND NOW YOU WILL BE PUNISHED FOR IT.

RRRRUUAARRR

NO!

WH-WHAT?!

WHAT *IS* THIS?

HA!

YOU HAVE FOUND THE MEMBRANE OF THE NEXT CIRCLE OF HELL.

IT CANNOT BE TRAVERSED EXCEPT BY OUR KIND.

THOUGH PERHAPS YOU *WERE* MEANT FOR *THERE*, NOT HERE.

DON'T--

YOU DIED THINKING OF DOOMSDAY... CONNECTED TO THE IDEA OF HIM.

YOU INFECTED *HELL*. YOU MADE IT ALL *WORSE*.

YES. COME ALONG. YOU BELONG IN *HERESY*.

LOOK UPON YOUR NEW HOME AND WEEP.

THERE WAS ANOTHER.

HN?!

WHEN I DIED. THERE WAS ANOTHER PRESENT. ANOTHER I CONNECTED TO-- WHO SOUGHT TO SAVE ME.

I THINK I BROUGHT SOME OF HIM HERE TOO... ALONG *WITH* DOOMSDAY.

THEY *CHANGED* ME. BOTH OF THEM.

THE *MARTIAN MANHUNTER* IS A SHAPE-SHIFTER.

HE'S WORN DIFFERENT FORMS AT DIFFERENT TIMES.

AND, YOU WORTHLESS %&$*#$% %*&$ OF @/%--

--ONE OF THEM WAS A LITTLE LIKE *THIS.*

GGRUUUUH!

THAK!

DOWN!

HRRN!

NNH!

NICE TRY.

HRRRN?!

YOU DARE TO--

--TO DEFY--

VERY MUCH SO, YES.

HOOOMM

KRAKK

GRRRR...

STAY.

YOU'RE WITH ME NOW.

GOOD BOYS.

RF.

RFF.

AND ALL OF YOU SINNERS...

KRAK

NNN-HH!

WH-WHA?

NONE OF YOU DESERVE THIS.

THEY WILL COME FOR YOU AGAIN. AND THEY WILL LOCK YOU BACK UP IF THEY CATCH YOU. BUT FOR NOW, YOU ARE FREE. YOU ARE NOT SUFFERING.

FREE WHO ELSE YOU CAN. RUN FROM THE MONSTERS.

TELL EACH OTHER THAT THINGS ARE CHANGING.

STAY WITH US. PROTECT US.

THESE DOOMHOUNDS WILL.

FOR NOW.

I'LL BE BACK. BUT FOR NOW, I MUST GO DEEPER.

DEEPER INTO HELL?

BUT EACH CIRCLE IS WORSE. EACH FOR THE *MORE DESERVING.*

NONE OF US DESERVE THIS PLACE.

YOU HEAR ME?

AND THAT'S THE POINT.

IF THERE IS A HELL, THERE IS A DEVIL.

AND I WOULD LIKE A $#%&#$% WORD.

I fly.

I fly through the scorching skies of Hell.

And I land. And I disguise what I am.

Demons aren't too bright. This has worked in every circle of Hell so far.

I walk, and wait for the next idiot demon to take me down to the next one.

I don't think I'm supposed to be here.

YOU...

...YOU'RE NOT SUPPOSED TO BE HERE, SON OF MAN.

He's right.

Hell was never meant to have its own Superman.

BLOODWYND: A SUPERMAN FOR HELL

WRITER: DAN WATTERS
ARTIST: MAX RAYNOR
COLORIST: ANDREW DALHOUSE
LETTERER: DAVE SHARPE
ASSISTANT EDITOR: JILLIAN GRANT
EDITOR: PAUL KAMINSKI

CONTINUED IN THE PAGES OF ACTION COMICS!

DC

DAWN OF DC

A hard-boiled tale debuting in AUGUST

THE PENGUIN

REVENGE IS FOR THE BIRDS!

Written by
Eisner Award Winner
TOM KING

Art by
Eisner Award Nominee
RAFAEL DE LATORRE

Cover by
SCORPIO STEELE
STEFANO GAUDIANO

© & ™ DC.

Don't miss
***The Penguin* #0**
prelude one-shot!

FORGING THE FUTURE
ONE VILLAIN AT A TIME

DC NATION SPOTLIGHT ON

DAWN OF DC

BATMAN/CATWOMAN

THE GOTHAM WAR

© & ™ DC.

THE BAT AND THE CAT COLLIDE WITH THE SOUL OF THEIR CITY AT STAKE!

AUGUST

- *Batman/Catwoman: The Gotham War - Battle Lines #1*

SEPTEMBER

- *Batman #137*
- *Catwoman #57*
- *Batman/Catwoman: The Gotham War: Red Hood #1*

OCTOBER

- *Batman #138*
- *Catwoman #58*
- *Batman/Catwoman: The Gotham War: Red Hood #2*
- *Batman/Catwoman: The Gotham War: Scorched Earth #1*

DC COMICS MARIE JAVINS VP – Editor-in-Chief JIM LEE President, Publisher & Chief Creative Officer ANNE DePIES Senior VP & General Manager LARRY BERRY VP – Brand Design & Creative Services DON FALLETTI VP – Manufacturing & Production LAWRENCE GANEM VP – Editorial Programming & Talent Strategy ALISON GILL Senior VP – Manufacturing & Operations NICK J. NAPOLITANO VP – Publishing & Business Operations NANCY SPEARS VP – Sales & Marketing

ACTION COMICS PRESENTS: DOOMSDAY SPECIAL 1. October, 2023. Published by DC Comics, 4000 Warner Blvd., Bldg. 700, 2nd Floor, Burbank, CA 91522. GST # is R125921072. Copyright © 2023 DC Comics. All Rights Reserved. All characters featured in this issue, the distinctive likenesses thereof, and related elements are trademarks of DC Comics. The stories, characters, and incidents mentioned in this magazine are entirely fictional. DC Comics does not read or accept unsolicited submissions of ideas, stories, or artwork. For Advertising and Custom Publishing contact dccomicsadvertising@dccomics.com. For details on DC Comics Ratings, visit dc.com/ratings.

The Last Kryptonian-DCP